



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 6479

LCO No. 3478



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF MONEY
DAMAGES IN A SMALL CLAIMS ACTION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 51-15 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2013*):

4 (d) The procedure for the hearing and determination of small claims
5 as the same may be prescribed, from time to time, by the judges of the
6 Superior Court shall be used in all small claims sessions of the court.
7 The small claims procedure shall be applicable to all actions, except
8 actions of libel and slander, claiming money damages not in excess of
9 [five] ten thousand dollars, and to no other actions. If an action is
10 brought in the small claims session by a tenant pursuant to subsection
11 (g) of section 47a-21 to reclaim any part of a security deposit which
12 may be due, the judicial authority hearing the action may award to the
13 tenant the damages authorized by subsection (d) of said section and, if
14 authorized by the rental agreement or any provision of the general
15 statutes, costs, notwithstanding that the amount of such damages and

16 costs, in the aggregate, exceeds the jurisdictional monetary limit
17 established by this subsection. If a motion is filed to transfer a small
18 claims matter to the regular docket in the court, the moving party shall
19 pay the fee prescribed [by] in section 52-259. The Attorney General or
20 an assistant attorney general, or the head of any state agency or his or
21 her authorized representative, while acting in his or her official
22 capacity shall not be required to pay any small claims court fee. There
23 shall be no charge for copies of service on defendants in small claims
24 matters.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	51-15(d)
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Statement of Purpose:

To increase the maximum amount of money damages in a small claims action from five thousand dollars to ten thousand dollars.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]